

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 39 (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A ceramic monolith mount, comprising:

a motor vehicle exhaust unit housing with a preferably nonround housing shape formed of one of a pipe or half shells;

a mounting mat with at least one swelling mat, the mounting mat being a multilayer mat with different swelling mats with expanded mica mat structure and/or fiber mat structure provided on an inside and on an outside, the mount being formed by the steps of:

wrapping a mounting mat around the ceramic monolith;

mounting the wrapped monolith in the housing;

providing the mounting mat with the at least one said swelling mat which is a mixture of ceramic fibers, expanded mica and organic binder;

treating one or both of the mounting mat and the housing chemically and/or structurally for minimizing the erosion at least in an erosion risk area or in the area in which damage has occurred, wherein a combination of said swelling mat and fiber mat sections are arranged one behind the other to form said mounting mat, wherein the connection joint of the individual swelling mat and fiber mat sections has a wavy shape.

41. (Original) A ceramic monolith mount in accordance with claim 40, wherein said fiber mat structure of said mounting mat is a shear-resistant mat.

42 - 43. (Canceled).

44. (Original) The ceramic monolith mount in accordance with claim 40, wherein an individual mat of said mounting mat or said mounting mat is composed, in the circumferential direction from the ceramic monolith, of swelling mat sections and intercalated fiber mat sections without granular components and without expanded mica, said fiber mat sections being associated with said areas at risk of erosion, wherein the connection edges between said swelling mat sections and said fiber mat sections have a mutually meshing joint in a wavy shape to form erosion-resistant fiber mat sections and said individual mat faces said ceramic monolith.

45. (Original) Mounting in accordance with claim 44, wherein said erosion-resistant fiber mat sections have wave-shaped tongues and said swelling mat sections are pressure-resistant swelling mat sections with wave-shaped cutouts.

46 - 48 (Canceled)

49. (New) A ceramic monolith mount for holding a ceramic monolith in a motor vehicle exhaust unit housing formed of one of a pipe or half shells, the ceramic monolith mount comprising:

a mounting mat extending around the ceramic monolith in a circumferential direction

withing the exhaust unit housing, said mounting mat including plural swelling mat sections and plural fiber mat sections with each fiber mat section arranged adjacent to a swelling mat section with respect to the circumferential direction withing the exhaust unit housing, each of said swelling mat sections having a joint edge of wave shape and each of said fiber mat sections having a joint edge of a complementary wave shape with each fiber mat section joint edge abutting and engaging a swelling mat section joint edge to form a mutually meshing joint in a wave shape.

50. (New) A ceramic monolith mount according to claim 49, wherein said mounting mat is multilayered with each layer having said mutually meshing joints between adjacent swelling mat sections and fiber mat sections.

51. (New) A ceramic monolith mount according to claim 50, wherein the mutually meshing joints of one layer are offset from the mutually meshing joints of an adjacent layer.

52. (New) A ceramic monolith mounting mat in accordance with claim 51, wherein said joint edge of wave shape each of said fiber mat sections have tongues and said joint edge of said swelling mat sections have cutouts defining a region dimensioned for receiving said tongues.

53. (New) A ceramic monolith mount for holding the ceramic monolith in motor vehicle exhaust unit housing formed of one of a pipe or half shells, the ceramic monolith mount comprising:

a mounting mat extending around the ceramic monolith in a circumferential direction withing the exhaust unit housing, said mounting mat including a swelling mat section and an adjacent fiber mat section, said swelling mat section having a joint edge with a shaped undulating curved contour and said fiber mat section having a joint edge with a shaped undulating curved contour, said swelling mat section joint edge shaped contour being complementary to said fiber mat section joint edge shaped contour, with said swelling mat section joint edge shaped contour abutting with said fiber mat section joint edge shaped contour to form a mutually interengaging joint.

54. (New) A ceramic monolith mount according to claim 53, wherein said mounting mat is multilayered with each layer having said mutually interengaging joints between adjacent swelling mat section and fiber mat section.

55. (New) A ceramic monolith mount according to claim 54, wherein the mutually interengaging joints of one layer are offset from the mutually interengaging joints of an adjacent layer.

56. (New) A ceramic monolith mounting mat in accordance with claim 53, wherein said swelling mat section joint edge shaped contour and said fiber mat section joint edge contour joint edge each have tongues and cutouts defining a region dimensioned for receiving said tongues, wherein tongues of said swelling mat section are interlocked with cutouts of said fiber mat section.